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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AN: DB10084-9087

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ACTION AGR-01

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 AID-07 EUR-12 EB-08 ICA-15 IO-15
NEA-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 PA-02 RP-10 SR-04 SPRS-02
/084 W

-----023600 230401Z /60

R 230212Z FEB 81
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3095
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 02222

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PK, SREF

SUBJECT: FRANCE AND GERMANY PLEDGE WHEAT FOR AFGHAN
REFUGEES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AGR-01 MR
ESTIMATED BY *[Signature]*
DATE *[Signature]*
BY *[Signature]*
FOR *[Signature]*
PA OF NOT BY *[Signature]*

1. ACCORDING TO A REUTERS ARTICLE FROM PARIS PRINTED
IN THE FEBRUARY 19 PAKISTAN TIMES, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT
DECIDED ON FEBRUARY 18 "TO SEND 12,000 TONS OF WHEAT
IMMEDIATELY TO AFGHAN REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN." NEITHER
THE FRENCH EMBASSY NOR THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM OFFICE
IN ISLAMABAD CAN CONFIRM THIS STORY, BUT BOTH BELIEVE
IT TO BE TRUE. THIS AMOUNT COMPARES TO 3,000 TONS WHEAT
DONATION BY FRANCE IN 1980 THROUGH WFP. HEAD OF WFP
OFFICE ISLAMABAD CLAIMS THAT GERMAN GOVERNMENT RECENTLY
PROMISED TO SEND 6,000 TONS OF WHEAT IN APRIL FOR
REFUGEES BUT ON BILATERAL BASIS.

2. COMMENT: WFP REPORTS THAT IT DISBURSED ALMOST 23,000
TONS OF WHEAT IN JANUARY TO 1.5 MILLION REFUGEES AND
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TWO NEW PLEDGES REPRESENT ABOUT THREE WEEKS WHEAT RATIONS.

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WFP NOW CALCULATES IT HAS ENOUGH FIRM WHEAT PLEDGES (EXCLUDING RECENT U.S. PLEDGE OF 67,000 MT WHICH WILL NOT BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL RETURN OF AMBASSADOR HUMMEL) TO LAST UNTIL THIRD WEEK IN MARCH. WITH FIRM PLEDGES IN HAND, WFP CAN DRAW FROM GOP WHEAT STOCKS, BUT WFP IS NOT ABLE TO UTILIZE VERY LIMITED GOP SUPPLIES OF VEGETABLE OIL AND DRIED SKIM MILK. WFP SUPPLY OF THESE COMMODITIES WILL ONLY LAST UNTIL END OF MARCH AND LOCAL WFP OFFICIALS HAVE ALERTED WFP ROME OF URGENT NEED TO ARRANGE SHIPMENTS OF VEG OIL AND DSM IMMEDIATELY. KING

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